

The Barber Papers

COLOMBIA

INITIATING AUTHORITY:

ISAAC BRANDON/FERRACUTE MACHINE CO.

Date Range of Correspondence: 2/24/1902 - 11/18/1902

Number of Documents: 20 (19 to Barber)

Art Work: Trial drawings of obverse and reverse of designs for 50c coin

Significance: A relatively straightforward operation from initial contact with Barber through completion of the dies and the striking of more than 400,000 Half Dollars and just over 400,000 5c coins.

Isaac Branden.

David H. Branden.

Nathaniel Branden.

Isaac Branden & Bros

New York & Panama.

Cable Address "Gutz." New York.

A.B.C. 4th Edition.

*A. J. Telegraphic
List & Code.*

25 Broadway.

New York,

February 24th, 1902

Mr. C. E. Barber,

U. S. Mint,

Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:

As we are likely to require dies and collar for the coining of some Colombian 50-cent pieces, and your name has been given us by the Ferracute Machine Co, of Bridgeton, N.J., we would ask you what would be the cost of said dies and collar for the coin which we enclose: (which kindly return).

We may mention that should we have the coins made, it would be done by your Institution, as we have already had correspondence to that effect with the Superintendent of the Mint in Washington.

If there are any points we have omitted to mention to you or which you think we should know in this connection, be kind enough to enlighten us. Please inform us approximately, at the same time, how long it would take to make the dies & collar.

We request that in quoting us on the above you will give us every possible advantage in the matter of price.

Very truly yours,

Isaac Branden

Isaac Brandon

David H. Brandon

Nathaniel Brandon

Isaac Brandon & Bro's

New York & Panama.

Cable Address "*Gritz*," New York.

CODES USED

A. B. C. 4th Edition.

Bloomers Cryptograph

A1 Telegraphic.

35 Broadway.

New York, March, 4th, 1902.

Mr. Chas. E. Barber,

Mint of the United States,

Philadelphia, Pa.,

Dear Sir:-

We have your favor of the 25th, ultimo, and thank you very much for the quotations and particulars therein given. Should any business result from our inquiry we shall be glad to direct ourselves to you.

Can you inform us if there is any private Minting establishment that would undertake the coinage of silver pieces?

We remain,

Yours very truly,

Isaac Brandon

(Copy)

July 18th 1902.

Mr. Chas. E. Barber,

Engraving Dept. Mint of U. S.

Philadelphia, Pa,

Dear Sir:-

We beg to confirm order given you yesterday by our Mr. Isaac Brandon to make dies and collars necessary for the coinage of Colombian half dollars.

The mother die at a cost of -----\$350.00

Working Dies -----per pair-----\$ 20.00

Collars each-----\$ 5.00

We appreciate your promise to rush this order so that coinage may be started ~~with~~ in a month or less if possible, and your further promise to give us notice about a week in advance of the completion of the dies so that we may have the silver at the mint in time to avoid any delay in coining.

It may not be amiss to repeat in this what we told you regarding the changes to be made in the sample coin given, namely:

The 1892 half dollar is to show that the edge is to be milled, no stars and no place of coinage to appear, and the words "Republica de Colombia" instead of as on the 1885 coin, but that neither the ~~male~~ bust on the one side nor the coat of arms on the ~~other~~ side of said 1892 sample is wanted. The new coin is to have both the female bust WHICH LOOKS TOWARDS THE LEFT and coat of arms as shown in the 1885 coin. The new coin is further to have the wording, "Cincuenta Centavos" and the weight of the coin say: G. 12.500 Ley 0.835 and dated 1902.

Please let us know if this is as you understood the verbal instructions.

Will you kindly let us know how long it will take the Mint after receiving our bars to get same ready for coining as we wish to avoid all delays in getting the coining done promptly.

We are, dear Sir,

Yours truly,

(Signed) Isaac Brandon & Bros.

Mr. Chas. E. Barber

July 18th 1902.

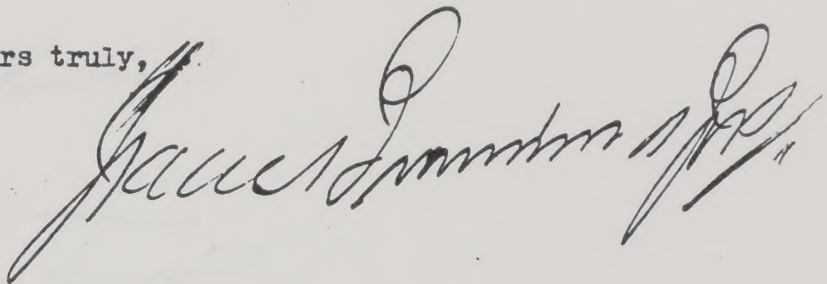
(2)

Please let us know if this as you understood the verbal instructions.

Will you kindly let us know how long it will take the mint after receiving our bars to get same ready for coining as we wish to avoid all delays in getting the coining done promptly.

We are, dear Sir,

Yours truly,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, likely belonging to James S. Smith, written over the "Yours truly," line.

Obverse Female head as
shown in 50. Cent.
inscription.

Republica de Colombia
Date 1902

Reverse. Same as Sample
with Bogota omitted.
Grain. same as Sample.

Diameters 14 M.M.

Isaac Brandon.

David H. Brandon.

Nathaniel Brandon.

Isaac Brandon & Bro's

New York & Panama.

Cable Address "Gutz." New York.

CODES USED

A.B.C. 4th Edition.

Blooms Cryptograph

A1 Telegraphic.

35 Broadway.

New York, July 23rd 1902.

Mr. Chas. E. Barber,

Engraving Dept. Mint of U. S.

Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir:-

Not having received any reply to our letter of the 18th inst.
we are inclined to think that it did not reach you and therefore enclose
you a duplicate.

We are, dear Sir,

Yours very truly,

Isaac Brandon & Bro's

Isaac Brandon

David H. Brandon

Nathaniel Brandon

Isaac Brandon & Bro's

New York & Panama

Cable Address "Gutz" New York

CODES USED

A.B.C. 4th Edition.

Bloomer's Cryptograph

A 1 Telegraphic

35 Broadway

New York, July 25th 1902.

r. Chas. E. Barber,

Engraving Dept. Mint of U. S.

Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir:-

We would like to call your attention to the following: On the
892 Coin left with you the weight of the coin appears ~~to be~~ thus G12'500
hile on the 1885 ----- thus G12,500

The latter is as it should be, we allude to the decimal point.

Yours truly,

Isaac Brandon

.S. Since writing the above we have just received your letter of the
4th inst. and you have not answered our question in reference to the time
equired by the mint to ^{get} ~~fit~~ bars into shape for coining., please refer to
ur letter.

J. D. P.



dia 14 Millon 250



~~Centavos~~

Milling like the
50 ct pos

Franc Brandon.

10 West 42nd Street.

Isaac Brandon

David H. Brandon

Nathaniel Brana

Isaac Brandon & Bro's

New York & Panama

Cable Address "Gritz," New York

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A.B.C. 4th Edition.

Bloomer's Cryptograph

A1 Telegraphic

35 Broadway

New York, July 30th. 1902.

Mr. Chas. E. Barber,

Engraving Dept. Mint of U.S.

Philadelphia, Pa.,

Dear Sir:-

We have just received your letter of yesterday's date, and we confirm your opinion as to the decimal points and abbreviations thus:

G. 12.500 and 0.835. ~~The word~~ as you have it in ~~the~~ *yr letter*

The word Ley please engrave "LEY" as this is the form used in Colombia.

Our senior does not recall whether he mentioned to you that the bird on the coin of 1885 is a CONDOR not an Eagle.

We have to-day forwarded to Washington our authority for the coinage, and the instructions to the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia should reach him within the next day or two. As soon as we learn that this has been done we shall inform you.

Yours very truly,

Isaac Brandon

Isaac Brandon

David H. Brandon

Nathaniel Brandon

Isaac Brandon & Bros
New York & Panama.

35 Broadway.

Cable Address "*Gutz*," New York.
CODES USED

A.B.C. 4th Edition.

Bloomers Cryptograph
A1 Telegraphic.

New York, August 18th. 1902.

Mr. George T. Morgan,

Acting for Chas. E. Barber,

Mint of the U. S.

Philadelphia, Pa.,

Dear Sir:-

We are in receipt of your two letters of the 15th. and 16th. inst. the former enclosing two and the latter one ^{of} Colombia half dollar struck from the first die, as samples.

With reference to these, we confirm our telephone message with you as follows:

There appears to be a slight defect in the nostril of the woman which when held in a certain light gives it a roughness of outline very noticeable, and we return you the piece that you may see what we mean.

The word LIBERTAD across the head of the female we would have liked in the same size letters as the specimen given you, but as this would delay the work considerably, we are willing to adapt your suggestion that the letters be made slightly wider, and thereby avoid the delay that their being made larger would imply. However we leave even this correction to your good good judgement as you can better estimate whether the widening of the letter would spoil the entire effect.

We remain,

Yours very truly,

Owing to our office being closed on Saturday we could reply to your letters before.

Isaac Brandon

Isaac Brandon

David H. Brandon

Nathaniel Brandon

Isaac Brandon & Bros
New York & Panama

35 Broadway

Cable Address "*Gutz*," *New York*

CODES USED

A. B. C. 4th Edition.

Blom's Cryptograph

A 1 Telegraphic

New York, August 20th. 1902.

Mr. George T. Morgan,

Ass' t. Engraver.

Mint of the U. S.

Philadelphia. Pa.,

Dear Sir:-

We have received your favor of the 18th. inst. and
thank you very much for its contents which have been duly noted.

We remain,

Yours very truly,

Isaac Brandon & Bros
McL

Isaac Brandon.

David H. Brandon.

Nathaniel Brandon.

Isaac Brandon & Bros
New York & Panama.

35 Broadway.

Cable Address "*Unitz.*" *New York.*
CODES USED

A. B. C. 4th Edition.

Bleeker's Cryptograph
A 1 Telegraphic.

New York, August 27th. 1902.

Answered
Sep 3rd

Mr. George T. Morgan,

Mint of the U. S.

Philadelphia. Pa.,

Dear Sir:-

We thank you for your letter of the 25th. and for the information therein contained.

We note by your postscript that the Director of the Mint has informed you that you are only to deliver the dies on an order of the Government of Colombia, and there certainly must be some error in this matter, as our contract with said Government distinctly stipulates that our firm is to send to the Minister of Colombia at Washington said dies, which of course is what we propose doing after receiving them from you with the detailed statement of the number of dies ect. ect. which have been used in the coining of the 500,000 pieces, and getting a receipt therefor for our own protection.

From the above you will therefore understand that we cannot recognize any authority that would make the delivery of the dies direct to the Minister.

The duplicate detailed list of the dies ect. is to be official and separate from the bill for the dies ect.

Will you kindly let us know when Mr. Barber is expected to return.

Yours very truly,

re send bill for the dies ect.
Isaac Brandon & Bros.

Isaac Brandon

David H. Brandon

Nathaniel Brandon

Isaac Brandon & Bros

New York & Panama

35 Broadway

Cable Address "*Crypt.*" *New York*

CODES USED

A.B.C. 4th Edition.

Blooms Cryptograph

A1 Telegraphic

New York, Spt. 8rd. 1902.

Mr. Charles F. Barber,

Mint of the U. S.

Philadelphia, Pa.,

Dear Sir:-

Enclosed please find our check for ----\$550.00

in payment of your bill of the 1st. inst.

With reference to the Hubs and Dies, we refer you to our correspondence of the 27th. ultimo addressed to Mr. George T. Morgan, and in conformity with same, we will later on inform you when to send said dies and hubs. Meanwhile, they are not to be delivered or sent to any one without our authority in writing.

Will you let us know whether the working dies are in a condition for further work.

We would thank you to consider as confidential the price charged for the dies.

We remain,

Yours very truly,

Isaac Brandon

Isaac Brandon

David H. Brandon

Nathaniel Brandon

Isaac Brandon & Bros
New York & Panama

35 Broadway

Cable Address "Unity," New York.
CODES USED

A.B.C. 4th Edition.
Bloomer's Cryptograph
A1 Telegraphic

New York, Oct. 14th, 1902.

Charles E. Bamber, Esq.,
United States Mint,
Engravers' Dept., Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:-

We have just been notified by cable that we are to have coined \$230,000. (Two hundred and thirty thousand dollars) in Colombian 50 cent pieces, or say 460,000 pieces, similar to the last. We therefore request that you put in execution the necessary number of dies and collars which may be needed for the purpose, advising us of the number which will be so required. In connection ^{with} ~~to~~ this we would refer you to letter of Mr. George T. Morgan, dated 5th September, in reply to our inquiry as to the number of dies that could be used for further coinage. Will you kindly let us know when the new dies which you have to make will be ready?

We will also require to have coined 400,000 5-cent pieces, for which dies will have to be made. As soon as we receive sample of the coin we will submit it to you, and trust that when we place the order you may be able to rush the work, as the Government is in pressing need for this fractional currency. Would you mind telling us, in confidence, whether the Mint is crowded with work?

Respectfully yours,

Isaac Brandon & Bros.

Isaac Brandon

David H. Brandon

Nathaniel Brandon

Isaac Brandon & Bro's
New York & Panama:

Cable Address "Gritz," New York:
CODES USED

A.B.C. 4th Edition.
Bloome's Cryptograph
All Telegraphic.

35 Broadway.

New York, October 17th 1902.

Mr. Chas. E. Barber,

Engravers Dep't.,

Mint of the U. S.

Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir:-

Replying to your favor of the 15th inst. you may make the dies
as mentioned therein. Say, five (5) pairs of dies for fifty-cent
(50¢) coins.

Yours very truly,

Isaac Brandon

Isaac Brandon.

David H. Brandon.

Nathaniel Brandon.

Isaac Brandon & Bro's
New York & Panama.

Cable Address "*Int.*" *New York.*
CODES USED

A.B.C. 4th Edition.
Holmes' Cryptograph
A1 Telegraphic.

35 Broadway.

New York, October 28th, 1902.

Chas. E. Barber, Esq.,
Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:-

We received your favor of the 27th instant, with bill for five pairs of Dies, and we herewith inclose check for \$100.00 cost of same.

As a matter of record we beg to repeat and confirm the instructions given you by our Mr. Brandon in person, in reference to the changes which are to be made in the Five (5¢) cent pieces, two specimens of which were given you. The obverse side is to be as the sample coin, except that "Bogota" is to be omitted. The numeral 5 ~~(50)~~ as suggested, is to be where "Bogota" has been eliminated, instead of between the two Horns of Plenty. On the other side "República de Colombia" is to be in place of "Estados Unidos de Colombia" and the stars are to be omitted.

The Coin is to be .666 fine: weight 1.250 grams, as in the sample coin: diameter 14 millimeters. The milling and the edge is to be as in the 50¢ pieces made for us.

Kindly let us know if this is your understanding of the matter.

We confirm the order given you for the Hubs as well as for the eight pairs working dies for the above 5¢ pieces.

We would thank you to let us know how this work is progressing, and when we can expect it to be finished.

Very truly yours,

Isaac Brandon

Isaac Brandon

David H. Brandon

Nathaniel Brandon

Isaac Brandon & Bros
New York & Panama.

35 Broadway

Cable Address "*Gutz.*" *New York.*
CODES USED

A.B.C. 4th Edition.
Bloomer's Cryptograph
A1 Telegraphic.

New York, Oct. 30th, 1902.

Chas. E. Barber, Esq.,

Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:-

We received your favor of the 29th instant, inclosing 5¢ silver coin and sketch showing changes to be made on the obverse side of same.

By a slip in writing we incorrectly stated the numeral 5 instead of Cent. to be where Bogota ~~has~~ to be eliminated, therefore you are correct as shown in drawing sent us. We trust you will pardon our error.

As you do not remark on the changes to be made on the face of the coin, we presume your understanding is in accordance with our letter.

We return you silver coin and would ask you to send back same after it has served its purpose.

We might mention that we have just received telegram from the Director of the Mint saying that instructions have been sent to Philadelphia to execute our order.

Very truly yours,

Isaac Brandon

POSTAL TELEGRAPH-CABLE COMPANY IN CONNECTION WITH THE COMMERCIAL CABLE COMPANY.



18.

JOHN W. MACKAY, President.
J. O. STEVENS, Sec'y. WM. H. BAKER, V. P. & G. M.

JOHN W. MACKAY, President.
ALBERT BECK, Sec'y. GEO. G. WARD, V. P. & G. M.



TELEGRAM

The Postal Telegraph-Cable Company transmits and delivers this message subject to the terms and conditions printed on the back of this blank.

NUMBER	SENT BY	REC'D BY	CHECK
15	<i>Rx</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>7</i>
Dated <i>New York 10</i> To <i>Chas E. Bartlett</i>			
Received at 685 NORTH BROAD ST. (WHERE ANY REPLY SHOULD BE SENT.) NOV 10 1907			

Englewood Sept
us must
samples five cent prices
received and approved
Isaac Brandont Pres

Isaac Brandon.

David H. Brandon.

Nathaniel Brandon.

Isaac Brandon & Bros
New York & Panama.

35 Broadway.

Cable Address "*Gutz*" *New York.*
CODES USED

A. B. C. 4th Edition.

Bloomer's Cryptograph
A 1 Telegraphic.

New York, Nov. 10th. 1902.

Mr. Chas. E. Barber,

Engraver's Dept. Mint of U.S.

Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of the 7th. Inst. came to hand, including two samples of the "5" centavo coins, and we have just telegraphed you our approval of said samples, so that no time may be lost in getting out the dies.

When do you expect to have them ready?

We think the coins are very handsome, but thought that the numeral "5" would be a little larger.

Yours truly

Isaac Brandon

P. S.

As soon as the dies for the above coins are completed please send us your bill.

Isaac Brandon

David H. Brandon

Nathaniel Brandon

Isaac Brandon & Bro's
New York & Panama.

Cable Address, "Gutz," New York.
CODES USED

A. B. C. 4th Edition.

Blooms Cryptograph
A1 Telegraphic.

35 Broadway.

New York, Nov. 18th 1902.

Mr. Charles E. Barber,

Mint of the U. S.

Philadelphia, Pa.,

Dear Sir:-

We have received the 50 centavos piece which you sent us, as well as the two 5 centavos given you as samples. Thanking you very much for your courtesy, we are

Yours very truly,

Isaac Brandon & Bro's
NYC

Office and Warehouse, 409 Commerce Street.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.,

July 2, 1902.

Chas. B. Barker.

BOUGHT OF **BROOKSBANK, MULLIN & Co.,**

Agents for

SEEBOHM & DIECKSTAHL,

Dannemora Steel Works,

High Grade Crucible Tool Steel.

Order.....

Shipped via.....

Terms.....

SELF HARDENING STEEL
DRILL RODS
DIE BLOCKS

HOT ROLLED SHEET STEEL
COLD ROLLED SHEET STEEL
STEEL FORGINGS

Cases	Bars or Pieces	Qts.	Description	Price	Amount	Total
8			Special Annealed			
			17/8" rd. x 25/8"			
12			15/8" " "	35 18	6 30	
			" " Cutting		1 50	
			Paid 7/8/1902			7 80

Office and Warehouse, 409 Commeree Street.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., *Sept. 23* 190*3*

Chas. E. Barber

N. S. Muir
BOUGHT OF **BROOKSBANK, MULLIN & Co.,**

Agents for
SIEBOHM & DIECKSTAHL,
Dannemora Steel Works,

Order.....

Shipped via.....

High Grade Crucible Tool Steel.

Terms.....

SELF HARDENING STEEL
DRILL RODS
DIE BLOCKS

HOT ROLLED SHEET STEEL
COLD ROLLED SHEET STEEL
STEEL FORGINGS

Cases	Bars or Pieces	Size	Spec. Ann.			Price	Amount	Total
			<i>Spec. Ann.</i>					
			<i>1/2" rd. + 2 3/8"</i>	<i>216 1/2</i>				
			<i>2 1/2" rd + 2"</i>	<i>20 1/2</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>846</i>	
			<i>Butting</i>				<i>300</i>	
			<i>190</i>					<i>1146</i>
			<i>E. C. BROOKSBANK & SON</i>					
			<i>Per</i>					
			<i>E. C. Shulson</i>					

Office and Warehouse, 409 Commerce Street.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.,

190

BOUGHT OF

BROOKSBANK, MULLIN & Co.,

Agents for

SEEBORN & DIECKSTAHL.

Dannemora Steel Works.

High Grade Crucible Tool Steel.

SELF HARDENING STEEL

DRILL RODS

DIE BLOCKS

HOT ROLLED SHEET STEEL

COLD ROLLED SHEET STEEL

STEEL FORGINGS

Terms

Cases	Bars or Pieces	Bdls.	Spec. Ann.	Price	Amount	Total
20			1 5/8" dia x 2 1/4" Cutting	18	5 13	
			190		31 75	
			T. C. BROOKSBANK & SON			6 88
			Per			